

## **OFFICIAL NEWS RELEASE**

MISSISSIPPI FORESTRY COMMISSION 660 North St., Suite 300, Jackson, MS 39202

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Forestry Commission Reports Timber Damage at \$3.7 Million

Jackson, MS--The Mississippi Forestry Commission reports the value of timber damaged by the north Mississippi tornado activity on May 1, 2010, at \$3,730,109.

According to an assessment report prepared by the Forestry Commission and submitted to Governor Barbour and the Mississippi Emergency Management Agency, the total area directly impacted by the tornado consists of 11,015 acres in three counties, of which 9,252 acres are forested. In Benton County, storm-damaged timber valued at \$2,153,388 was found on 4,929 acres. In Tippah County, storm-damaged timber valued at \$1,396,610 was found on 3,825 acres. In Lafayette County, storm-damaged timber valued at \$180,111 was found on 498 acres.

The value of hardwood timber damaged in Benton, Tippah and Lafayette Counties combined is \$2,854,117; pine timber damaged is \$719,443; and mixed pine/hardwood timber damaged is \$156,549.

The Forestry Commission will post additional information concerning the timber damage assessment and storm recovery tips on its Web site at <a href="https://www.mfc.ms.gov">www.mfc.ms.gov</a>.

The Forestry Commission's timber damage assessment does not account for individual or yard tree damage. The intent of the assessment is to identify damage to timber stands of commercial value and to facilitate timber salvage operations, if needed.